TERRA

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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

THE A.C. VROMAN COLLECTION

MANY OF THE MEN and women who photographed in the Southwest at the turn of the century have long been forgotten; their images are important to us today not because of their skills as photographers but because of the historical and ethnographic data that they preserved. But the work of A.C. Vroman is a happy exception. Vroman's photographs document a vanished way of life with a simple beauty that is neither condescending nor sentimental. This Pasadena bookseller not only mastered the considerable technical difficulties of field photography in the 1890s but was adept at establishing a trusting relationship with the people he photographed. The results of his patience can be seen in the portraits reproduced here. His subjects look back at us with a calm dignity, appearing completely at ease with the camera and its operator.

Adam Clark Vroman was born in La Salle, Illinois, on April 15, 1856, and at the age of eighteen went to work with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, where he was eventually placed in charge of the La Salle ticket office. In 1892, he married Esther H. Griest and later that year moved to Pasadena, California, hoping that the climate would benefit his young wife, who had tuberculosis. Unfortunately, Esther's health continued to decline rapidly, and she died in September 1894. Vroman remained in Pasadena and later that year opened a book, stationery, and photo supply shop in partnership with J.D. Glasscock. The business prospered, enabling Vroman to travel, to amass collections of Native American and Japanese art, and to develop his skills as a photographer.

Vroman made several photographic expeditions to Arizona and New Mexico between 1895 and 1904, recording what he saw on glass-plate negatives. He photographed other places as well, including the California missions, the eastern United States, Europe, and Japan. But it is his images of Navajo and Pueblo peoples that have had the most enduring appeal.

By 1914, ill health forced Vroman to end his travels and his photography; he died of cancer in Altadena, California, on July 24, 1916. An educated man with many interests, he left collections that enriched several cultural institutions, including the Pasadena Public Library, the Southwest Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Although his images had appeared in various publications, Vroman's fame as a photographer faded soon after his death. His name lived on primarily in his bookstore, which still

FAR LEFT

Cañon de Chelly. A.C. Vroman, 1904. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Seaver Center for Western History Research, V1516.

LEFT

Acoma woman firing pottery. A.C. Vroman, 1904. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Seaver Center for Western History Research, V1612.

COVER

Oraibi woman at window. A.C. Vroman, 1902. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Seaver Center for Western History Research, V602.

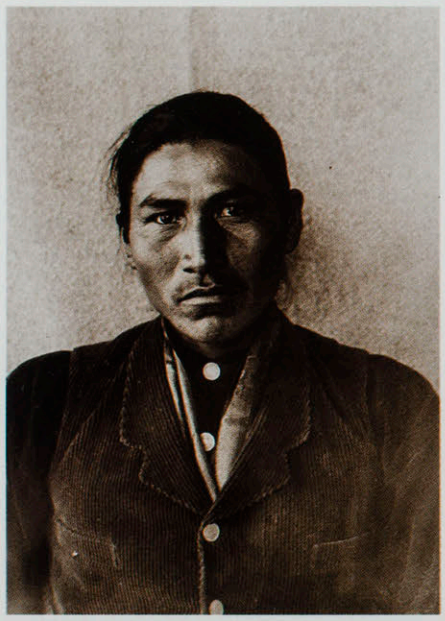
exists today and is well known to Pasadena book lovers.

In 1953, Lawrence Clark Powell, then Dean of the Library School at the University of California at Los Angeles, became curious about the fate of Vroman's glass negatives and located over 2,000 of them in the Visual Education Department of the Los Angeles Public Schools; recognizing the educational value of the images, the department had purchased them from Vroman's estate. Through Powell's efforts, the school system transferred the negatives to the Natural History Museum.

Today, the collection resides in the museum's Seaver Center for Western History Research and is one of the center's most significant and widely used photographic holdings. The work of A.C. Vroman continues to enrich our appreciation of the history of the American Southwest.

ERROL WAYNE STEVENS
Assistant University Librarian for Archives and Special Collections, Loyola Marymount University

Dr. Stevens was head of the Seaver Center for Western History Research from 1984 to 1994 and is now a museum Research Associate.



TOP

A.C. Vroman in Cañon de Chelly, self-portrait, 1904. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Seaver Center for Western History Research, V1478.

BOTTOM

Navajo man. A.C. Vroman, 1901. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Seaver Center for Western History Research, V1112

CLOSE TO THE BONE

GOOD TEETH would seem to be a necessity for a mammal with a carnivorous lifestyle: blunted and broken teeth are inferior weapons for killing and are poor tools for slicing meat and crushing bone. But the mammal collections of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and other museums contain large numbers of predators with broken teeth. In a 1988 study of modern lions, wolves, hyenas, and other large carnivores in several of these collections, Blaire Van Valkenburgh, Professor of Biology at the University of California at Los Angeles, found that an average of one out of every four adults had broken at least one tooth during its lifetime. Broken teeth were most common in the spotted hyenas she examined; 40 percent of all individuals had one or more fractures. This higher incidence of breakage is no doubt a reflection of the hyenas' habits: they fully consume carcasses—feeding "close to the bone" and regularly cracking open bones with their teeth to get at the nutrient-rich marrow.

Between 1989 and 1993, Dr. Van Valkenburgh performed the same study on fossil carnivores from the Rancho La Brea deposits, working with Fritz Hertel, a graduate student at UCLA. The asphalt seeps at Rancho La Brea represent an efficient type of animal trap that has been in operation since the late Pleistocene. In addition to yielding an unusual variety of plant and animal life, the tar pits are the source of a great deal of material on certain extinct animals: the dire wolf, for example, is known from the bones of more than 1,600 individuals. Because approximately ten carnivores were lured to their death by each herbivore trapped in the asphalt, the Rancho La Brea collections provided rich material for an investigation of tooth fractures in large predators. Van Valkenburgh and Hertel looked at more

than 4,000 fossil teeth from four carnivorous species: the American lion, the saber-toothed cat, the coyote, and the dire wolf.

The results of the study were surprising. The researchers found that the incidence of broken teeth in large carnivorous mammals present in the late Pleistocene in Los Angeles was three to five times as high as among their modern counterparts. The fractures were not confined to canine or incisor teeth, which one might expect to be often broken as carnivores struggled to subdue prey or tore meat from carcasses. Instead, almost all teeth—incisors, canines, and molars—were broken more often in the four Rancho La Brea species than in the modern predators Van Valkenburgh had examined.

One possible reason for the difference is age. The older the animal, the more likely it is to have suffered tooth damage, and perhaps the Pleistocene carnivores studied were older than the modern animals. But the predators that had died at Rancho La Brea did not show the general advanced tooth wear that you would see in older animals: they appeared to be young adults in their prime.

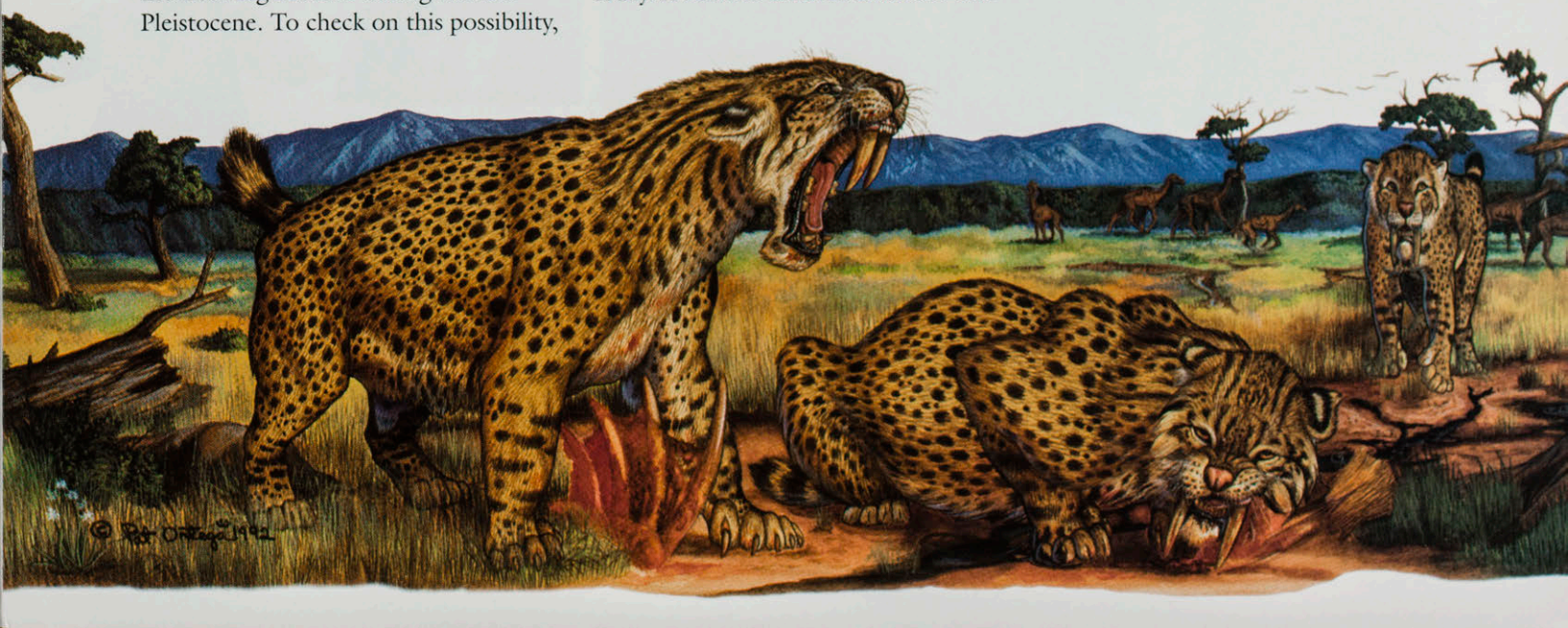
Perhaps the higher frequencies of tooth breakage at Rancho La Brea were the result of something that happened in the Los Angeles area during the late Pleistocene. To check on this possibility, Van Valkenburgh and Hertel looked at an additional 550 dire wolf teeth from two other Pleistocene sites—San Josecito, Mexico, and Talara, Peru. They found nearly the same percentages of tooth breakage in the fossil animals from these remote locations as in the Rancho La Brea residents.

If age, local conditions, and damage after death are ruled out as possible explanations for the high levels of tooth damage in the fossil animals, the reason must have something to do with the animals' behavior. Several routines in the life of a predator—capturing, guarding, and feeding on prey—are hard on teeth and might result in their breaking. Each of the fossil species studied had its own method of capturing prey, and it seems unlikely that the variety of methods used would result in the breakage rates observed. But extremely thorough feeding from carcasses—including gnashing at and crunching open bones—might be the explanation.

When food is limited, carnivores are likely to feed more rapidly, to be more aggressive in guarding their kills from other animals, and to more completely consume their prey. The large number of broken teeth in the predators from the late Pleistocene suggests that competition for food was more intense then than it is today. A Rancho La Brea carnivore that had been able to obtain a carcass needed to extract as much nourishment from it as possible and would employ feeding methods that often resulted in broken teeth. For these animals, prey must have been difficult to acquire or to retain.

The tooth fractures that Van Valkenburgh and Hertel believe indicate tough times for predators 10,000 to 40,000 years ago may be reflecting the approaching extinctions of the prey we assume these large animals fed on—the camels, horses, bison, mammoths, and giant ground sloths. Scarcity of prey may have subjected the carnivores to a fight for life that most of them lost. Of the four Pleistocene predators studied, only the omnivorous and adaptable coyote survives today.

Van Valkenburgh and Hertel are two of the dozens of scientists from around the world who are using material from the Rancho La Brea collections in their research. Treasures of the Tar Pits, an exhibition on the Rancho La Brea site and finds, has returned from a 6-year tour of North America and is on display in the Foyer of the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park through September.



Saber-toothed cats feed close to the bone on a carcass, probably a camel (others can be seen in the background). Small mural by Pat Ortega, 1992; collection of the artist.

KENTE CLOTH IN AFRICA AND NORTH AMERICA

Defense attorney John T. Harvey III . . . yesterday . . . walked resolutely into D.C. Superior Court wearing a multicolored kente cloth stole, an emblem of West African royalty and black pride.—Andrew Brownstein, "Showdown Over Kente Cloth," *The Washington Post*, June 12, 1992

THE BRIGHTLY COLORED CLOTH known as *kente*, whose complex patterns have been embued with cultural significance in West Africa for several centuries, is now widely in evidence in the United States.

Originally made by the Asante people of Ghana, kente (pronounced ken-tay) developed when royal artisans in the seventeenth century began to unravel imported silk trade cloth and to apply ancient traditions in reweaving the threads into a distinctive fabric reserved for the Asante king and members of his court. Specific kente patterns were used in traditional Asante culture to identify the wearer's rank and status within a finely delineated social hierarchy. Today, kente is largely a symbol of national pride in Ghana, where it is worn by many people on festive occasions.

Kente cloth is woven in 3- to 5-inch-wide strips on a double-heddle loom. Finished strips are edge-sewn to produce fabric of the necessary width: a man's garment—which is worn wrapped around the body and draped over the left shoulder—is made by sewing together about twenty strips. At the time of its creation, each kente cloth pattern is given a name that commemorates a historic event, refers to a proverb, or captures the thoughts and feelings of the weaver. One particularly elaborate weave, for example, is known as *adweneasa*, which translates loosely as "I am exhausted."

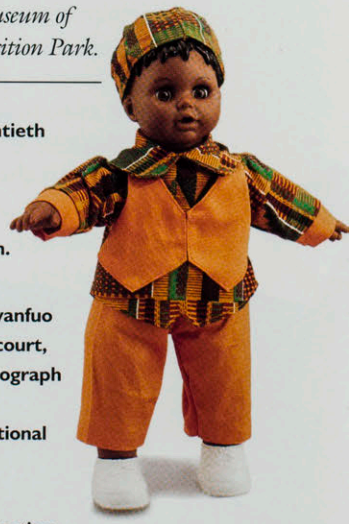
Kente cloth has been popular in America for several decades, but demand increased significantly in the 1980s. Today, U.S. department stores offer a variety of clothing, jewelry, and household objects inspired by kente motifs. Kente apparel is used on many black dolls, which have played an important role in teaching children about their ethnic heritage and instilling pride and self esteem. Kente is also worn in some churches as an expression of unity and African American consciousness.

While kente has always functioned as a political emblem in the court hierarchy of the Asante, its political potency has also become evident in America. In 1992, John T. Harvey III, a black defense attorney, was ordered by a white judge to remove the kente stole he customarily wore around his suit collar or lose his client's right to a trial by jury in Washington D.C. Superior Court. The judge contended that the kente pattern could influence the fairness of a trial by creating an unspoken ethnic bond between the lawyer, his client, and certain members of the jury. As noted in the quotation at the top of this article, Harvey refused to comply with the court's order.

Like a thread connecting generations of Africans and African Americans through space and time, kente cloth chronicles, with resonant splendor, a history of ethnic identity and cultural heritage—on both sides of the Atlantic.

CHRISTOPHER B. STEINER
Assistant Curator, Anthropology

Examples of kente from Africa and America are currently featured in a small exhibition on the ground floor of the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park.



TOP
Detail of kente cloth, twentieth century. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, FA.2202.79–5. Photograph by Dan Watson.

LEFT
Paramount Chief Nana Akyanfuo Akowuah Dateh II and his court, Kumasi, Ghana, 1970. Photograph by Eliot Elisofon. Courtesy Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art.

RIGHT
"Jamal," Hip Hop Kids collection, copyright 1990 Olmec Corporation. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, FP.4.94–410. Photograph by Dan Watson.

MUSEUM ON THE MOVE

CURATOR APPOINTED GETTY SENIOR SCHOLAR

Christopher B. Steiner, Assistant Curator of Anthropology and an expert in the indigenous arts of Africa, has been invited to spend the 1995–1996 academic year as a Senior Scholar at the Getty Center for the History of Art and the Humanities, an advanced research institute fostering innovative interdisciplinary scholarship in the history of art and related fields.

Each year the center invites twelve established scholars to spend 9 months in residence at its facility in Santa Monica. The theme for the coming year's scholarship is the history and nature of collecting and display. Dr. Steiner, who has just completed a fellowship at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, is beginning work on a book on the history of the definition of art in American law.

NEW CURATOR OF EXHIBITIONS

Adam T. Kessler has been appointed Associate Curator of Exhibitions. Dr. Kessler, who received a Ph.D. in archaeology with distinction from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1989, is an expert in the origins and development of Chinese ceramic and fabric technology and its dissemination across the ancient Silk Road. He served as guest curator for the Natural History Museum's exhibition Empires Beyond the Great Wall: The Heritage of Genghis Khan, and is now working on bringing several other exhibitions from Asia to the U.S. for the museum.

Adam T. Kessler

NEW ASSISTANT CHIEF OF EDUCATION

Lisa Kightlinger has joined the Natural History Museum staff as the new Assistant Chief of Education. Kightlinger holds a B.A. in Anthropology/Psychology from Syracuse University and an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts. For the past 5 years, she has been Education Coordinator at the Litchfield Historical Society in Connecticut.

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

The Natural History Museum's Education Division has received two gifts in support of programming for children and young adults. As part of its Children's Museum Partnership Program, Microsoft Corporation has donated a Multimedia CD-ROM computer and Microsoft Home software. The newly created Computer Corner in the Discovery Center of the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park will provide visitors with an additional tool for exploring the worlds of history and natural history.

The Getty Grant Program has given the museum $9,900 for Undergraduate Multicultural Summer Internships. These funds will create job opportunities this summer for three college students considering entering the museum profession. This is the third year that the museum has received funding from the Getty for this purpose: Grace Cabrera, who is now Program Assistant for Visitor Programs in the Education Division, first came to the museum 2 years ago as a Getty summer intern.

MONSTER TRUCK HOVERS AT PETERSEN MUSEUM

The Fairfax Avenue entrance to the Petersen Automotive Museum's new ARCO AM/PM Cafe is now marked by an off-road icon, ARCO's monster truck "The Boss." The vehicle, which weighs 13,000 pounds (5,900 kilograms), was driven in competition by Meredith May Doulton, one of the few female drivers on the race circuit, and has been featured as *Off-Road Magazine* Truck of the Year. The Boss was recently retired from competition and has come to rest in mid-air outside the Petersen, suspended above the ground as though it had just jumped the museum's wall heading for the street below.

MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTION GROUP

Dr. John Heyning, Associate Curator of Mammals, has completed service as chair of the scientific review group that oversees management of marine mammals in its Pacific region for the National Marine Fisheries Service. NMFS's review groups, which were mandated by Congress as part of the 1994 reauthorization of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, provide scientific advice on problems resulting from interactions between people in the U.S. fishing industry and marine mammals.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATES WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Six companies have recently joined the ranks of the Natural History Museum's Business Associates, a distinguished group of corporations that make annual unrestricted gifts of $2,000 or more in support of the museum's exhibitions and educational programming. The new members are:

Bankers Trust
Hawthorne Savings
Neutrogena
Nissan North America, Inc.
Walt Disney Records
Watson Land Company

Community business leaders interested in obtaining further information about the important role of the Business Associates may contact John Charnay in the Natural History Museum's Development Office at 213/744–3307.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER BROWN ADDRESSES BUSINESS ASSOCIATES

California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, Jr., addressed more than fifty executives and civic leaders attending the spring luncheon for representatives of the Natural History Museum's Business Associates. In warning against further cuts in public sector support for museums and other cultural institutions, Brown urged the business leaders to "get involved to protect the things you really care about."

Brown's appearance at the luncheon was coordinated by Gary Jacobs, Chair of the

Continued on page 14

MUSEUM TRAVEL PROGRAM

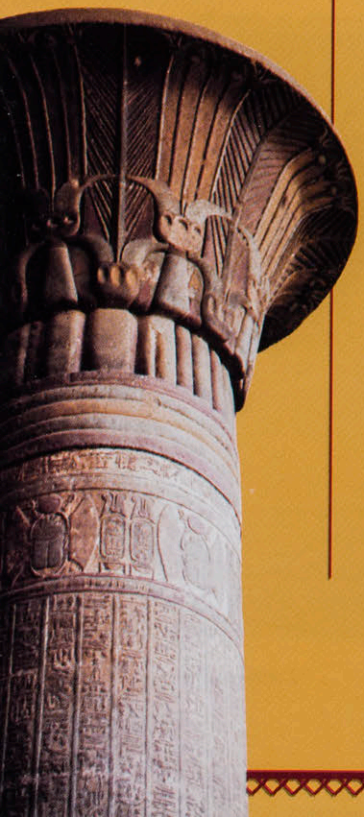
Photographs: Egypt, Karen Hovanitz

ALSACE FRANCE

September 17 to 25, 1995

Join us for a cultural seminar in the village of Ottrott, France, nestled in a hollow of the Vosges Mountains and surrounded by a landscape of forests, orchards, and vineyards. Mornings will be devoted to seminars and lectures, and afternoons to the exploration of nearby conservatories, botanic gardens, and historic sites. There will be time to hike, bicycle, or simply enjoy this lovely "village fleuri," where the air is pure and the food divine.

■ $2,585 including airfare from Los Angeles



EGYPT

October 27 to November 10, 1995

Let the ancient land of Egypt cast its spell over you, as you explore a wealth of antiquities, including the great Pyramids and Sphinx of Giza. A 4-night Nile cruise takes in the sites of Kon Ombo, Edfu, Esna, and Thebes and the Valley of the Kings. You will have the opportunity to snorkle in the Red Sea at Ras Mohammed National Park and to ride into the Sinai Desert on a camel safari. After visiting St. Catherine's Monastery, continue on to the 2,000-year-old city of Petra, in Jordan.

■ $3,295 including airfare from New York

COPPER CANYON

November 4 to 11, 1995

Explore Mexico's Copper Canyon, where 400 miles of wonderful scenery, bridges, tunnels, and lovely villages are seen from aboard the "train in the sky," the "Chihuahua al Pacifico" Railroad. Our expedition offers a unique opportunity to study early European explorers, Pancho Villa, the revolution of 1910, and the Tarahumara Indians, living today much as their ancestors did. On daily nature walks, we will see breathtaking vistas, waterfalls, and wildlife endemic to the Sierra Madres Mountains.

■ $1,990 plus airfare

YUCATAN

January 6 to 20, 1996

Maya archaeologist Dr. Richard D. Hansen will lead museum travelers on a fascinating journey through Mexico's beautiful Yucatan peninsula on this enlightening study tour. You will explore Dzibilchaltun, Uxmal, Chichen Itza, Coba, and Palenque, among many others. Each site on the tour has been carefully chosen to reveal a different facet of the history, religion, and art of the ancient Maya and Olmec civilizations.

■ $3,290 plus airfare

ANTARCTICA

January 23 to February 6, 1996

Journey to the ends of the earth in austral summer, when elephant and fur seals, chinstrap and Adelie penguins, and humpback, blue, and southern right whales put on an ever changing show against the splendor of aquamarine icebergs and the brilliant southern sky. Traveling aboard the 170-passenger expedition vessel *Hanseatic*, you will visit the Falkland Islands, cross the Drake Passage, and set foot on the Antarctic Peninsula.

■ From $6,850 including airfare from Miami

FOR MORE INFORMATION

please contact Karen Hovanitz
Museum Travel Program (213) 744-3350.

EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

■ OUR WEAKENING WEB

The Story of Extinction

Through September 10, Dart Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Visitors can explore over 500 million years of natural history in this fascinating new exhibit. Life-size scenes, interactive displays, and electronic games demonstrate that extinction is a natural process that has been occurring since the beginning of life on Earth. The exhibit emphasizes changes that people can make now to help preserve biodiversity and to decrease our impact on the environment.

■ CUSTOMIZING COMES OF AGE

The Work of Boyd Coddington

Through July 23, Meyer Gallery, Petersen Automotive Museum

Boyd Coddington is a leading force in the manufacture of custom cars and hot rods and the creator of such distinctive vehicles as CadZZilla, the radically modified 1948 Cadillac owned by the rock band ZZ Top. This exhibition of several of Coddington's automobiles includes a customized version of the rare 1933 Ford C400 convertible and several vehicles that have won top prize in the Academy Awards of hot rodding, the annual Roadster Show in Oakland.

Also on view in the Petersen Museum's second floor galleries:

American Classics of the 1930s, through November 12, 1995, celebrates the styling and grandeur of luxury cars such as the Duesenberg, Pierce-Arrow, Cadillac, and Lincoln.

■ SHADOWBIRDS

Photographs by William Burt

Through August 6, Director's Gallery, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Rails are tiny, enigmatic birds that live their lives in dense marshes, silently threading their way through mazes of stems and stalks and branches. In his 20-year quest for glimpses of these elusive birds, nature photographer William Burt

has crept through the marshlands of Maryland, North Dakota, and Manitoba, usually in the middle of the night, enduring swarms of insects as well as occasional, sometimes harrowing encounters with other people. The result is Shadowbirds, an exhibition of intriguing and remarkably beautiful photographs of a relatively unknown and rapidly disappearing wetland environment and its inhabitants.

LOST AND FOUND TRADITIONS

Native American Art, 1965–1985

Extended through September 2, 1995, Burbank Museum

The Lost and Found Traditions collection of contemporary Native American art demonstrates the vitality of artistic traditions in nearly every major Native American cultural group. The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, which was chosen as the permanent home for the collection in 1992, is proud to present an exhibition of more than 100 of these splendid and diverse artworks. The examples of woodwork, beadwork, basketry, and weaving show the artistic continuity that exists between past traditions and present interpretations.

TREASURES OF THE TAR PITS

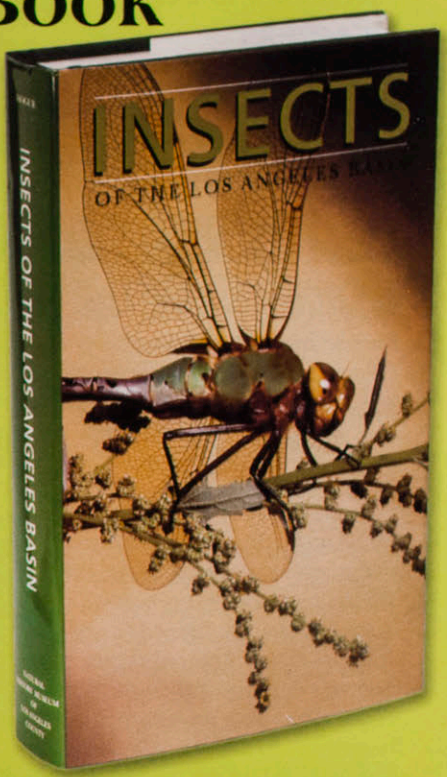
Through September 1995, Foyer, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Rancho La Brea is one of the world's most famous fossil sites. From tar pits formerly mined for natural asphalt, an incredibly rich trove of fossils up to 40,000 years in age has been recovered. Here huge mammoths, fierce saber-toothed cats, packs of dire wolves, and hosts of birds became trapped and entombed with many other smaller creatures and a variety of plants. This exhibition of fossils excavated from the site presents the most recent findings on what has been called the "death trap of the ages."

ABOVE

Least Bittern. Polk County, Iowa, July 1993. From Shadowbirds, Photographs by William Burt, through August 6 at the Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park.

An Essential REFERENCE Book



by Charles L. Hogue

Insects of the Los Angeles Basin, a guide to beneficial as well as pesky forms, features: Descriptions of more than 400 species of common or conspicuous insects and another 70 species of spiders and related forms • 500 illustrations, 370 in full color • Information on behavior, mating rituals, food preferences, nests and traps, and noises and scents; lore and superstition regarding some notorious species • Essays on basic biology, habitats, collecting, and conservation of insects and spiders.

Author Dr. Charles L. Hogue has answered the questions that he was most often asked in his position as Curator of Entomology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The result is a highly readable book—an essential reference for southern California gardeners, teachers, students, campers, and anyone who is interested in nature, ecology, and environmental protection.

448 pages, 5 by 8.5 inches, 500 illustrations (370 in color), glossary, resource list, bibliography, index.
$45 hardbound; $27.95 softbound

Members receive a discount when purchasing from the Natural History Museum shops; please call 213/744-3434 to place your order.

PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS

LECTURES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

■ REFLECTIONS OF EDEN

Biruté Galdikas and the Orangutans of Indonesia

Sunday, August 20, 2 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Encouraged by the famed paleoanthropologist Dr. Louis Leakey to study the orangutan, or "person of the forest," **Dr. Biruté Galdikas** has become the world's leading expert on the red-haired great ape and one of the most important conservation and field researchers of this century. Highlighting her recently published autobiography, *Reflections of Eden* (Little Brown, 1995), Galdikas will talk about her 23 years of work with the orangutans of Borneo, her efforts to protect and support these unique animals, and the urgent need to maintain their habitat, the magnificent rainforests of Indonesia. $10 members, $15 nonmembers, $5 students and teachers.

Primatologist Biruté Galdikas navigates the Sekonyer River with a crew that includes her daughter Jane and two of her study subjects, Supinah (*at right*) and baby DyDy. Dr. Galdikas describes her work with orangutans in a lecture and booksigning on August 20. Photograph by Alain Compost and Albert Visage (BIOS/Peter Arnold).

■ A KING'S RANSOM

Ancient Egyptian Jewelry

Saturday, July 29, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Jean Delacour Auditorium, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

This slide-illustrated program provides an opulent feast for the eyes as we explore the history of Egyptian jewelry, its manufacture, symbolism, and function. Presenting their current research on this glamorous subject are two of the world's finest Egyptologists, **Carol Andrews** and **Dr. Robert Steven Bianchi.**

Andrews, Assistant Keeper and Senior Research Assistant in the British Museum's Department of Egyptian Antiquities, will talk on "The Labor of the Craftsmen: Jewelry Forms and Manufacture" and "Adorning the Mummy: Funerary Jewelry and Amulets." She is author of books on ancient Egyptian jewelry and amulets.

Dr. Bianchi, one of two Americans elected to the International Association of Egyptologists and a contributing editor to *Archaeology*, will speak on "Precious Commodities: Materials and Their Symbolic Meanings" and "The Decorative Art of Self Adornment: Jewelry Designs and Meanings."

This exciting program is cosponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt, Southern California Chapter. $35 Natural History Museum and ARCE members, $45 nonmembers, $20 students; lunch not included.

Gold pectoral, 12th Dynasty, ca. 1830 B.C. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rogers Fund and Henry Walters Gift, 1916. 16.1.3. Height 1¾ inches (4.5 centimeters).

ADULT CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Attention Automobile Enthusiasts!

■ MISS INFORMATION SERIES

Tuesdays, July 18 and August 15, 7 p.m., Classroom, Petersen Automotive Museum

On the third Tuesday of each month, the Petersen Museum hosts a program designed to bring automobile enthusiasts together in an informal but informative atmosphere. Cosponsored by *Miss Information*, a calendar of automotive events, each meeting features a seminar by an expert in mechanics or automotive care. Reservations are not required; please call 213/964–6356 for information. $15 per person, including parking and museum admission.

GOING, GOING . . . GONE?

■ The Biology of Extinction and Endangerment

Saturday, July 8, 1 to 5 p.m., Times Mirror Conference Room, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Why do some species become endangered or extinct? And how does the accelerating loss of species affect our world and the world our children will inherit? Through this program, which is presented in conjunction with the exhibit Our Weakening Web: The Story of Extinction, you'll learn

more about extinction as both a natural evolutionary process and a tragic consequence of our mounting impact on our environment. The panel participants are Natural History Museum staff members **Dr. John Heyning,** Curator of Mammalogy, and **Kimball Garrett,** Ornithology Collections Manager, and **Dr. Robert Allen,** Entomology Research Associate, and **Dr. Blaire Van Valkenburgh,** Professor of Biology at UCLA. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

Behind-the-Scenes Tour

■ LA BREA TAR PITS BONE BONANZA

Saturday, August 5, 9 to 11:30 a.m., George C. Page Museum and Hancock Park

Buried in bones is one way to describe the scientists and volunteers who work at the Page Museum cleaning, identifying, and cataloging the huge inventory of Ice Age fossils that have been discovered in the nearly 90 years of excavation at Rancho La Brea. Join us as we tour the asphalt deposits at Hancock Park, watch excavators at work in Pit 91, and visit behind the scenes with museum staff and volunteers in the preparation laboratory. Rancho La Brea Collections Manager **Christopher Shaw** and Laboratory Supervisor **Shelley Cox** will discuss their work collecting, studying, and preserving the "treasures of the Tar Pits." $10 members, $15 nonmembers.

The Bone Bonanza tour of Rancho La Brea offers a chance to watch actual excavations of fossil skeletons at Pit 91. Photograph by Dick Meier.

■ BIOLOGICAL ILLUSTRATION

Tuesday evenings, September 5 to November 28, 6 to 9 p.m., Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Learn to create beautifully detailed and scientifically accurate images of a variety of animals and plants. Working with pencil, pen and ink, and watercolor, you will practice stippling, line drawing, and shading to create biological illustrations of natural specimens. Instructor **Frances Runyan** has taught illustration at the museum for over 12 years; her paintings and drawings have appeared in books and scientific journals and are represented in the collections of the Huntington Library, Carnegie Institute, and our own museum. All experience levels welcome. $90 members, $100 nonmembers.

■ KITCHEN HERBS

Sunday, September 17, 1 to 5 p.m., Times Mirror Conference Room, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Discover medicinal, edible, and decorative uses of kitchen herbs as you learn to wrap and tie your own hand-crafted herbal bundles from fresh, all-natural materials. Hang these in your kitchen to use in recipes, or give as fragrant gifts that will last for years. You will also make (and enjoy eating!) recipes with common herbs and discover how easy it is to start your own herb gatherer's garden. Lifetime gardener and landscape designer **Terre Ashmore** is your instructor. $50 members, $60 nonmembers.

■ THE SCARAB BEETLES

Denizens of Dung, Dunes, and Detritus

Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Times Mirror Conference Room, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Revered as gods, coveted by collectors, despised as crop pests, and valued as sanitation engineers, scarab beetles have exerted their influence on human culture for thousands of years. In this program, you'll discover the scarabs' fascinating habits, exotic shapes, and gemlike colors by examining slides, specimens from the museum's extensive collection, and live scarabs from the Insect Zoo. You'll also learn why entomologists find these beetles fascinating and important to the study of evolution, behavior, and biogeography. Your instructor, **Dr. Art Evans,** Insect Zoo Director, will describe his 20 years of experience studying scarabs—traveling from the windswept California Channel Islands to the blistering sands of the Kalahari to observe their behavior and search for new species. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

A scarab beetle from Namaqualand, South Africa. Photograph by Dr. Art Evans.

FIELD TRIPS

■ EXPLORATIONS IN ISLAND BIOLOGY

A Weekend Workshop on Santa Cruz Island

Thursday to Sunday, July 27 to 30

Santa Cruz Island is a jewel in California's Channel Island chain. The largest of the eight Channel Islands, it is as unspoiled as all of California was 200 years ago. The Nature Conservancy owns 90 percent of the island, which lies in waters designated the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

We spend an extended weekend at the island's research station, which is normally

closed to the general public. From there, on foot and by four-wheel-drive vehicle, we explore deserted beaches, pristine archaeological sites, and hidden streams and canyons. Botanist and island expert **Steve Junak** introduces us to the natural history of this beautiful island and focuses on its unique flora and fauna, some of which—like the majestic Santa Cruz Island ironwood and the charming Channel Islands Fox—are found nowhere else in the world. In the evenings, we relax under the summer stars and enjoy the peace of this very remote and special place.

Transportation to and from the research station is by five- and nine-passenger plane out of Camarillo Airport. Lodging is rustic (sleeping in bunk-style accommodations or pitching your own tent), and we bring our own food to prepare in the fully equipped kitchen. $245 members; $265 nonmembers.

■ INTO THE SUMMER'S NIGHT

An Evening Hike

Saturday, July 29, 6:30 to 10 p.m.

Join naturalist **Peter Rice** for an evening hike in the Santa Monica Mountains. Explore the varied mountain terrain, sample edible plants, and learn tips for safe hiking. After sunset, study the summer constellations and Milky Way and hear stories of the Chumash Indians. The hiking is easy to moderately difficult, with a 400-foot elevation gain. $15 members, $20 nonmembers.

■ EXOTIC FELINE BREEDING COMPOUND

A Twilight Tour

Saturday, September 23, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Dedicated to the preservation of endangered species, the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound houses an average of 50 large cats, including North Chinese leopards, Siberian tigers, jaguars, and ocelots. Join **Dr. Fritz Hertel**, Department of Biology at UCLA, and the compound staff and volunteers for a special early evening tour to view the animals and learn about the breeding programs being conducted to keep their gene pools pure and healthy. The facility is located in Rosamond (about 1½ hours from Los Angeles). Participants provide their own transportation. Because of compound safety regulations, only people age 18 and over can be admitted. $25 members, $30 nonmembers.

■ WALKING ON THE WILD SIDE

Basic Tracking and Wilderness Awareness

Saturday, September 30, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Introduce yourself to the techniques and language of animal tracking with wilderness experts **Jim Lowery** and **Mary Brooks** of Earth Skills. By learning to improve vision and hearing and practicing silent walking, you begin to understand how to blend in harmoniously with the wilderness. The class includes plenty of "dirt time" studying tracks to identify animal type, gender, age, motion, and even personality. Participants bring a picnic lunch and meet at the site; everyone receives a 1-year subscription to *Dirt Times*. $50 members, $60 nonmembers.

FAMILY FUNDAYS!

These hands-on family programs are **free** with museum admission for children ages 4 to 13. They are held in the Discovery Centers of the Exposition Park and Burbank museums.

VANISHING BLUES

■ **Saturday, July 22**, 1:30 or 2:15 p.m., Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

■ **Saturday July 29**, 1:30 or 2:15 p.m., Burbank Museum

What does it mean to be endangered? Find out while singing "The Vanishing Blues" with artist **Jennifer Nissenson** and her musical puppets.

FOUND OBJECT ART

■ **Sunday, August 20**, 1:30 or 2:15 p.m., Burbank Museum

■ **Sunday, August 27**, 1:30 or 2:15 p.m., Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

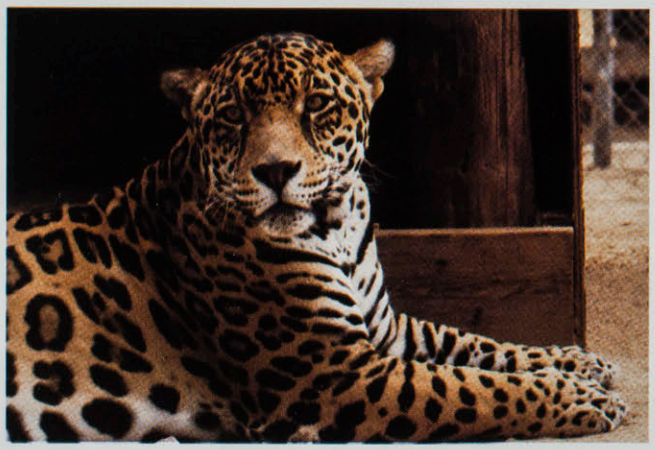
Turn everyday objects into art! With art educator **Gayle Clemens**, transform "found objects" into sculptures of your own.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

■ ADVENTURES IN NATURE 1995

July 17 to 21, July 24 to 28, or July 31 to August 4, Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park

Children 3 to 14 years old learn about nature firsthand in exciting participatory sessions with outstanding instructors. The week-long courses, which are offered in mornings and afternoons, offer opportunities to visit curatorial laboratories, work with natural history specimens and artifacts, and



An American jaguar at the Exotic Feline Breeding Compound; a twilight tour of the compound is offered on September 23. Photograph courtesy Exotic Feline Breeding Compound.

The instructor of the Adventures in Nature class for "Reptile Wranglers" introduces students to a boa constrictor. Photograph by Dick Meier.

make craft items to take home. While children are in class, adults may enjoy free museum programs.

Classes include:

- **Ages 3 to 5** (with accompanying adult)—Camp Dino, Bug Tales, Green Machines, and Critters, Critters Everywhere.
- **Ages 5 to 7**—Fish Friends, Paws and Jaws (mammals), Beat the Heat (life in the desert), Whales and Dolphins, Bug Buddies, and Night Creatures.
- **Ages 8 to 10**—The Art of Nature (scientific illustration), Living on the Land (southern California Indians), Fine Feathered Friends, Reptile Wranglers, Ecology, and Crystal Gazers (mineralogy/geology).
- **Ages 10 to 13**—Mummies and Mysteries (archaeology), Shake and Bake (environmental geology), Dinosaur Diggers (paleontology), Scientific Method, Creature Comforts (animal care and careers), and Wildlife Biology (vertebrate biology).

Classes, which are limited to 20 students each, run Monday through Friday, mornings (10 a.m. to noon) or afternoons (1 to 3 p.m.). Program costs are $70 per class for members, $80 per class for nonmembers. Members receive additional discounts when enrolling two or more siblings. For additional information, please call 213/744–3534.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

The five museums that make up the Natural History Museum offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities at a range of locations around Los Angeles County. Prospective volunteers can be trained to be docents, curatorial helpers, or service council members or to work in outreach programs. If you are fascinated by the world of history or the natural sciences, the Natural History Museum family welcomes you. Please call the following numbers for further information:

- NEWHALL, the William S. Hart Museum: Carol Sandmeier, 805/254–4584.
- BURBANK, Museum of Natural History: Zandra Stanley, 818/557–3557.
- MIRACLE MILE, the George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries: Denny Diveley (touring docents), 213/857–6305. Shelley Cox (laboratory volunteers), 213/857–6318.
- MIRACLE MILE, the Petersen Automotive Museum: Linda Murray, 213/964–6347.
- EXPOSITION PARK, Museum of Natural History: Isabel Rosenbaum, 213/744–3341.

MEMBERS' LOAN SERVICE

Bring the museum into your home or classroom! The Members' Loan Service, located at the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park, has science specimens, historical objects and models, and cultural artifacts available for loan. For a $5 fee, three items may be borrowed for a 2-week period. Open hours: Thursdays, 2 to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS RESERVATION FORM

By telephone: Use your MasterCard or VISA. Call the Education Division at 213/744-3534, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Credit cards are accepted only with a minimum charge of $20.

By mail: Complete the form below, fill in the charge information or enclose a check payable to Museum Foundation, and return your order form and payment with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The form may be duplicated. Mail to: ***Education Division, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007***

Important: Reservation, Waiting List and Refund Policies. Preregistration is required for all classes, workshops, and field trips and is recommended for all other Education Division programs. Tickets to auditorium events may be purchased at the door; seating is not reserved. Reservations are not necessary for Family Fundays.

Applicants for filled programs will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if vacancies or rescheduling occur. If you have paid for a filled program, your payment will be refunded in 4-6 weeks.

Cancellations must be made one week prior to the first day of the event for the registrant to be eligible for a refund. Only if we are able to fill your space will the fee be refunded.

Dates and times of programs are subject to change, and class sizes are limited. Please call 213/744-3534 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to verify program dates, times, and availability.

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Program	Number of participants	Price	Total Price

Total Remittance _____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

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Please list children's names, ages, and programs in which they are enrolling:

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_____

_____

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As of April 30, 1995

MUSEUM ON THE MOVE CONTINUED

Continued from page 7

Business Associates Executive Committee, who is a partner in the Century City law firm of Christensen, White, Miller, Fink & Jacobs, where Brown is newly of counsel.

RECORD-BREAKING ATTENDANCE AT 13TH ANNUAL DINOSAUR BALL

The 1995 Dinosaur Ball, held on March 4 at the Petersen Automotive Museum, was attended by more than 900 guests, setting a new record for the event. Major corporate underwriting was received from Thomas Bros. Maps, ARCO, Amgen, Majestic Realty Company, Salomon Brothers Inc, and Tiffany & Co. George C. Page sponsored the premiere Grand Prix Table at the event.

During the evening, special tribute was made to Bill Bird, who along with his wife, Toni, chaired the 1994 Dinosaur Ball. Bill was an ardent supporter of the Natural History Museum and was President of the Natural History Museum's Alliance Board of Directors at the time of his death in February 1995.

The ball raised approximately $235,000 for the museum's educational outreach and public programs, which serve more than 750,000 children and adults each year.

Honored guests at the 1995 Dinosaur Ball were Margie and Bob Petersen *(center)*, shown here with the cochairs of the gala, Lynn and Douglas Brengel of San Marino *(at right)* and Raylene and Bruce Meyer of Beverly Hills. Photograph by Dan Watson.

BELOW

Robert E. Petersen *(left)*, founder of the Petersen Automotive Museum, and Dr. James L. Powell *(second from right)*, President and Director of the Natural History Museum, pose with Dinosaur Ball guests Carroll Shelby *(right)*, champion race driver and creator of the Shelby Cobra and the Mustang GT 350, and automobile enthusiast Tim Allen, star of television's "Home Improvement." Photograph by Dick Meier.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We are delighted to announce the winner of the Natural History Museum's Spring Membership Campaign. Adele Hurwitz, a long-time museum member and Docent, brought in fifteen new museum members between February 21 and April 21, 1995. As winner of the "member get a member" campaign, Hurwitz was awarded—among other prizes—two additional months of membership for each new member that she recruited and a weekend for two in San Francisco, including airfare and hotel accommodations. Our thanks to all who helped make the campaign such a success.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTED MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Natural History Museum is pleased to offer discounted memberships to the work colleagues of our members. If you work at a company with twenty or more employees, please contact the Membership Office at 213/744–3426 to discuss distributing 20 percent discount membership coupons to your co-workers. The offer, which applies only to new memberships, is valid through August 31, 1995.

JOIN THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM!

Sales of memberships to museum visitors have become an important part of the Membership recruitment program, and the volunteers who sign on new members as they enter the museums are essential to the program's continued growth. Our thanks to all of the museum volunteers who have in the past year increased our membership by sharing their excitement about the museum with visitors.

The Membership Office is searching for motivated and enthusiastic volunteers to staff the admission and information desks and sell memberships at the Exposition Park, Petersen, Page, and Burbank museums. If you would like to join the volunteer sales team, please call 213/744–3426.

FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MUSEUM FELLOWS

Follow the Fellows! You'll find them behind the scenes with curators on tours of the collections, at gala exhibition openings, and at private gatherings with eminent guest lecturers. Membership in this distinguished group, whose annual giving supports museum public programming, offers an array of exciting ways to experience the best of natural science and history.

This year's Fellows Committee is co-chaired by Judy Perlstein and Bob Swartz. Events planned for the fall include an evening with the nation's foremost photographers of gems and minerals; a trip on the Sagebrush Trail at the base of the Western Sierras; and a high tea at a famous Los Angeles area Victorian home.

In addition to invitations to these and other exclusive events, Fellows benefits include recognition on a plaque in the Museum of Natural History in Exposition Park, preferred parking for Coliseum and Sports Arena events, free admission and shop discounts at a number of the leading natural history museums in North America, and all regular benefits of Natural History Museum membership. Perhaps the greatest benefit, however, is the satisfaction of serving the cultural life of the museum and our community at the highest donor level. Annual dues for the Fellows begin at $1,000, with opportunities at higher levels. For more information, please call Jane Auerbach at 213/744–3307.

Membership in the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County provides free admission to all of its FIVE museums, including the Museums of Natural History in Exposition Park and at the Media City Center in Burbank, the Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries, the William S. Hart Museum in Newhall, and the Petersen Automotive Museum. In addition, you will receive year-round discounts in all of the Museum Gift Shops; a year's subscription to TERRA; exclusive travel opportunities; reduced fees for classes and lectures for children and adults; and invitations to members-only events.

JOIN FIVE MUSEUMS IN ONE!

Your Name(s) _____
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❑ Check enclosed (Make payable to Natural History Foundation)

Charge my ❑ American Express ❑ MasterCard ❑ VISA ❑ Discover

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Membership Category:
❑ Individual ($40) ❑ Patron ($150) ❑ Fellow ($1000)
❑ Family ($50) ❑ Naturalist ($250) ❑ Director's Circle ($3000)
❑ Contributing ($100) ❑ Explorer ($500)

Gift Announcement Message _____

_____

Please send me information about:

❑ Bequests ❑ Tax-advantaged life income gifts

Please return this form to the Membership Office, Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90007.

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County—which includes five institutions—acquires, conserves, and displays objects relating to natural and human history. The museum is a center for academic inquiry as well as for exhibition, education, publication, and community outreach.

The Museum of Natural History, Exposition Park, is located at 900 Exposition Boulevard, Los Angeles 90007. The George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries is located at 5801 Wilshire Boulevard, Hancock Park, Los Angeles 90036. The Burbank Museum is located at 555 North Third Street, Burbank 91502, adjacent to the Media City Center mall. The Petersen Automotive Museum is located at 6060 Wilshire Boulevard, at Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles 90036.

For recorded information on museum hours, admission fees for the general public, and days when no admission is charged, please call:

■ Exposition Park Museum	213/744-DINO
■ Page Museum	213/936-2230
■ Burbank Museum	818/557-3562
■ Petersen Museum	213/930-CARS

Admission to these museums is always free to members. For information on membership, please call 213/744-3426.

The William S. Hart Museum is located at 24151 San Fernando Road, Hart Park, Newhall 91321. Admission is free. For information on museum hours, please call:

■ Hart Museum	805/254-4584

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These handcarved wooden toys were developed exclusively for the Natural History Museum by the artists of Skid Row Access, Inc.–a nonprofit enterprise committed to improving the quality of life for residents of low-income neighborhoods in Los Angeles.

Proceeds from the sale of these charming items benefit both the museum and Skid Row Access.

T Rex Rider	$27
T Rex Wheel Toy	$15
Saber-tooth Wheel Toy	$13
Bear Wheel Toy	$13

and at the Petersen Automotive Museum...

Gas Pump	$20
Cycle and Side Car	$23

STORE LOCATIONS

Natural History Museums

Exposition Park
(213) 744-3434

Burbank Media City Center
(818) 557-3551

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(213) 857-6300

Petersen Automotive Museum
(213) 964-6328